



PRESS NOTICE

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October 6, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FIREFIGHT AT SUMTER HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS OVER STOLEN DRUGS LEADS TO IMPRISONMENT FOR TEN DEFENDANTS

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated today that William Jenkins, a/k/a "Bubba" (25), Marvin Dennis, a/k/a "Lump" (23), Howard Logan, a/k/a "Buzzard" (25), Elliott Jermaine Porcher, a/k/a "J-whip" (32), Brandon Bradshaw, a/k/a "Rex" (24), Tony Murphy (30), Randell Murphy (29), Felicia Jenkins (28), and Aya Milton (26), all from the Sumter and Rembert areas of South Carolina, along with Lashawn Gillard (24) from Georgia, have been sentenced in federal court. United States District Judge Cameron McGowan Currie imposed a combined total of more than 135 years of imprisonment on the ten defendants: William Jenkins, a/k/a "Bubba" (360 months), Marvin Dennis, a/k/a "Lump" (360 months), Howard Logan, a/k/a "Buzzard" (235 months), Elliott Jermaine Porcher,

a/k/a “J-whip” (235 months), Brandon Bradshaw, a/k/a “Rex” (120 months), Tony Murphy (144 months), Randell Murphy (120 months), Lashawn Gillard (37 months), Felicia Jenkins (6 months), and Aya Milton (6 months). These sentences were imposed based on their having plead guilty to a variety of charges, including Hobbes Act Robbery (a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951), use of a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking and a crime of violence (a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)), possession with intent to distribute marijuana (a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841), and misprision of a felony (a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951).

Evidence presented established that William Jenkins, Howard Logan, and Jermaine Porcher agreed to rob Logan’s marijuana supplier, Gillard. William Jenkins and Jermaine Porcher in turn agreed to have Marvin Dennis, Brandon Bradshaw, Tony Murphy, and Randell Murphy assist in the robbery. They all traveled to Santee, South Carolina, where they met Gillard down a dirt road. Jenkins and Porcher – with assistance from Logan and his brother Lake Vaughn – robbed Gillard and his associate at gunpoint. Logan fled the scene with the stolen marijuana as Dennis arrived with Bradshaw, Tony Murphy, and Randell Murphy. After a dispute about the distribution of the spoils of the robbery, William Jenkins, Jermaine Porcher, Marvin Dennis, Brandon Bradshaw, Tony Murphy, and Randell Murphy tracked Howard Logan and Lake Vaughn to the parking lot of the Holiday Inn Express in Sumter, SC. There, a firefight erupted in which gunfire from a variety of handguns (including a .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol, a 9mm semi-automatic

pistol, and a .357 caliber revolver), an AR-15 assault rifle, and a 12-gauge shotgun was exchanged. Howard Logan was shot twice and Lake Vaughn was killed by a single gunshot wound. Assisted by Felicia Jenkins and Aya Milton, William Jenkins, Jermaine Porcher, Marvin Dennis, Brandon Bradshaw, Tony Murphy, and Randell Murphy fled the scene only to be arrested over the ensuing days based on the investigation of the Sumter Police Department.

The case was investigated by agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration and Sumter Police Department with assistance from the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED). Assistant United States Attorneys Jay N. Richardson and Jane B. Taylor of the Columbia office handled the case, which was prosecuted as part of the joint federal, state and local Project CeaseFire initiative, which aggressively prosecutes firearm cases.

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